

### REMARKS

The present Response to Restriction/Election Requirement is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on 16 September 2005 for the above-identified patent application.

The patent application was originally filed with claims 1-25. In the present response, the Applicants amend claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 15. The Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the issues. No new matter has been entered by this amendment. As apparent, claims 1-25 as amended are now pending for examination.

In the Office Action of 16 September 2005, the Examiner restricts the claims into three Groups I, II, and III:

- I. Claims 1-12 drawn to a decorative lighting apparatus;
- II. Claims 13-19 draw to a method of illuminating a decorative lighting apparatus;
- III. Claims 20-25 drawn to a lighting connector.

***In response, the Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the Examiner's restriction. If the Examiner continues to maintain such restriction, the Applicants choose to elect Group I claims 1-12 (as amended) drawn to a decorative lighting apparatus.***

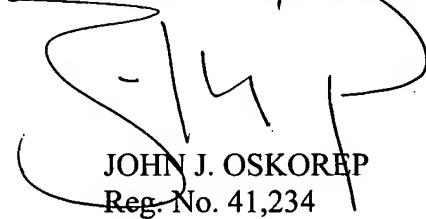
The Applicants respectfully disagree for the following reasons. For one, the present response provides an amendment to the claims (including independent claims 1 and 13) so as to provide less distinction between the two claim Groups I and II. Groups I

and II as claimed are not distinct, as the process for using the product cannot be practiced with another materially different product, and the product cannot be used in a materially different process of using that product. Both product and process utilize time-multiplexing color control, despite the Examiner's assertion that "Group II is not capable of performing this function." The time-multiplexing color-control is performed with use of red, green, and blue color-control outputs which are coupled to red, green, and blue color-control terminals of color-controllable lights, as claimed, as well as set selection outputs. Further with respect to Group III, the interface connector is used with the product and processes of the other claimed Groups I and II.

Thank you. Please feel free to contact the undersigned for any reason if it would expedite the prosecution of the present application.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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